

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT
INITIAL POLREP**

DATE: March 7, 2004

SUBJECT: Young Oil Diesel Spill
Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama

FROM: Kevin S. Misenheimer, OSC
Emergency Response and Removal Branch

TO: Region 4, RRC
Robert Johnson, ADEM
Marie Bankston, Etowah Co. EMA
Glenn Adams, OSC
Project File

I. BACKGROUND

Site Name: Young Oil Diesel Spill
Street address: 3383 Hwy 278 East
City, county, state: Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama
Latitude and longitude: N 33° 59.720' W 85° 55.494'
Site Number:
EPA ID #:

Response Authority: CWA/OPA
NPL Status: non-NPL
Incident Category: Emergency
State Notification: ADEM
Start Date: 6 March 2004
Completion Date: on going
Lead OSC: Glenn Adams

II. SITUATION

Date of Notification: March 6, 2004
Date Action Started: March 6, 2004
Completion Date: on going
Pollutant: diesel
Quantity Discharged: estimated 1,100 gallons
Substantial Threat: no
Surface Water: un-named creek to Big Cove Creek to Coosa River

Source Identification: tank failure
Potential Responsible Party: Young Oil Company

III. ACTIONS

On March 4, 2004, diesel fuel was discovered in a ditch and un-named creek located near Hwy 278 East in the town of Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama. The un-named creek is a tributary of Big Cove Creek, which is a tributary to the Coosa River. Local fire department personnel along with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) on scene determined that the diesel spill was originating from the Young Oil facility at 3383 Hwy 278 East. After coordination with ADEM, the EPA Duty OSC dispatched OSC Adams to the scene at 1500 hours.

Upon arrival at the scene, OSC Adams discovered that the spill was the result of a tank failure at the Young Oil facility. Apparently, the tank (which had not been used recently) was loaded with approximately 5,800 gallons of diesel fuel. Over several days, the tank leaked most of its contents into secondary containment. However, the secondary containment either failed or did not contain the total volume of the tank, resulting in a discharge of diesel fuel into the environment and subsequently, surface water. OSC Adams assessed the magnitude of the spill, the extent of contamination and immediately began coordination with ADEM, the local fire department and representatives from Young Oil.

IV. FUTURE ACTIONS

The RP is conducting the clean up action. OSC Adams providing oversight and assistance.

V. ESTIMATED COSTS

N/A at this time.

**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY
POLLUTION REPORT
FINAL POLREP**

DATE: May 14, 2004

SUBJECT: Young Oil Diesel Spill
Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama

FROM: Glenn Adams, OSC
Emergency Response and Removal Branch

TO: Region 4, RRC
Robert Johnson, ADEM
Marie Bankston, Etowah Co. EMA
Project File

I. BACKGROUND

Site Name: Young Oil Diesel Spill
Street address: 3383 Hwy 278 East
City, county, state: Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama
Latitude and longitude: N 33° 59.720' W 85° 55.494'
Site Number: N/A
EPA ID #: N/A
NRC REPORT #: 715300
Response Authority: CWA/OPA
NPL Status: non-NPL
Incident Category: Emergency
State Notification: ADEM
Lead OSC: Glenn Adams

II. SITUATION (See Initial POLREP)

Date of Notification: March 6, 2004
Date Action Started: March 6, 2004
Completion Date: March 8, 2004
Pollutant: diesel
Quantity Discharged: estimated 1,100 gallons
Substantial Threat: no
Surface Water: un-named creek to Cove Creek to Coosa River
Source Identification: tank failure
Potential Responsible Party: Young Oil Company

III. ACTIONS

On the morning of March 6, 2004, the smell of diesel fuel was reported in a wide portion of Cove Creek just before entering the Coosa River. Local fire department personnel along with the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) determined that the diesel spill was originating from the Young Oil facility at 3383 Hwy 278 East in the town of Hokes Bluff, Etowah County, Alabama. The diesel fuel was discovered in a ditch behind the facility and in an un-named creek which flows into Cove Creek, which is a tributary to the Coosa River. After coordination with ADEM, the EPA Duty OSC dispatched OSC Adams to the scene at 1500 hours on March 6, 2004.

Upon arrival at the scene, OSC Adams discovered that the spill was the result of a tank failure at the Young Oil facility. Apparently, the tank (which had not been used recently) was loaded with approximately 5,800 gallons of diesel fuel. Over several days, the tank leaked most of its contents into secondary containment. On March 5, 2004 a significant rainfall event occurred and the secondary containment failed resulting in a discharge of diesel fuel into the environment and subsequently into surface water. OSC Adams assessed the magnitude of the spill, the extent of contamination and began coordination with ADEM, the Hokes Bluff Fire Department, Etowah County EMA, and the owner of Young Oil. Hokes Bluff Fire Dept. had placed all of their available absorbent boom in the unnamed tributary and at the initially effected portion of Cove Creek and had directed the RP to build an earthen dam in the drainage ditch to prevent further migration of product.

OSC Adams requested that the RP hire an environmental contractor to start recovery of the diesel fuel that had been contained by earthen dams in the drainage ditch and by booms and dams in the unnamed tributary. The RP hired SWS who immediately began work after arrival. Hard boom was placed at the convergence of Cove Creek and the Coosa River. Absorbent boom was placed at available locations on Cove Creek and absorbent boom and pads along the unnamed tributary and the drainage ditch were replaced. Vac trucks were brought in to recover the product in the drainage ditch and product contained by the boom in downstream locations. By the evening of March 7, 2004 approximately 75% of the product was reported to have been recovered from the dammed up portion of the drainage ditch near the origination point of the spill. By the afternoon of March 8, 2004 most of the product had either been recovered or was secured with boom and the recovery actions were taking place. The contractor planned to keep out boom for several more days to ensure that no product was released to the Coosa River. The SOSOC planned to continue over-site. OSC Adams de-mobed site.

On March 19 and March 22, 2004 OSC Adams was in contact with ADEM, Etowah County EMA, SWS project manager, and a local citizen about complaints of fuel odors coming from the area of the unnamed tributary. The citizen reported that product was still present in the area around the unnamed tributary with strong fuel odors being present. ADEM and SWS investigated the report and could not find any product nor any odors in the reported areas.

IV. FUTURE ACTIONS

No future actions planned.

V. ESTIMATED COSTS

N/A

VI. CONTACTS

NAME	AGENCY/ORG	PHONE NUMBER	ROLE
Glenn Adams	US EPA R-4	404-562-8771	FOSC
Robert Johnson	ADEM	205-942-6168	SOSC
Marie Bankston	Etowah Co. EMA	256-549-4575	Local Responder
Chief Mike Howington	Hokes Bluff Fire Dept.	256-492-2414	Local Responder
Darrell Pierson	SWS	205-252-8655	Cleanup Contractor
Brian Boatwright	Boatwright Excavation	256-494-0112	Contractor
Vernon Young	Young Oil	256-447-9087	RP